

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW AMELANCHIER FROM SOUTHEASTERN
CALIFORNIA.

BY PAUL C. STANDLEY.

[Published by permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.]

Most of the service-berries of the western United States are characterized by pubescent foliage and inflorescence. Several species, however, are almost or quite glabrous, among them being *Amelanchier alnifolia* Nutt. and *A. polycarpa* Greene, two plants which range through the mountains and foothills of the Rocky Mountain region. In 1891 Doctor Greene described* a completely glabrous plant, *Amelanchier glabra*, from the Donner Lake region of California. Recently the writer had occasion to segregate the specimens of this species in the U. S. National Herbarium. Only two were found, one from the type region (*A. A. Heller* No. 7176) and one from Plumas County, California (*Mrs. Ames*), both of which agree very well with the type and with several other specimens in Doctor Greene's herbarium. In Coulter's New Manual of Rocky Mountain Botany (p. 266) Prof. Aven Nelson reports this species as occurring "from southern Colorado to the Sierra Nevada" and cites as a synonym *Amelanchier polycarpa* Greene, a species described from southern Colorado. To the writer it seems that *A. polycarpa* is distinct from *A. glabra*, and probably also from *A. alnifolia*, to which it is certainly closely related.

Besides the two collections referable to *Amelanchier glabra* there is only one other glabrous Californian specimen in the National Herbarium, this being one collected in the Panamint Mountains of the southeastern part of the State, by the Death

* *Flora Franciscana*, p. 52.

Valley Expedition. It is so clearly distinct from any other western species that the writer does not hesitate to propose it as new.

Amelanchier covillei Standley, sp. nov.

Branches very stout, brownish red, glabrous; petioles stout, 3 to 10 mm. long; leaf blades oblong-orbicular to rounded-oval or rarely obovate-orbicular, 12 to 20 mm. long, 8 to 17 mm. wide, usually pointed at the apex and obtuse or sometimes rounded, obtuse or broadly rounded at the base, rather finely but irregularly crenate-serrate, the teeth apiculate, subcoriaceous, pale green and somewhat glaucous on the upper surface, paler green beneath, glabrous; racemes glabrous, rather densely few-flowered; pedicels 2 to 12 mm. long; ovary and calyx glabrous, the calyx lobes triangular-subulate, 2.5 mm. long; petals obovate-oblong, rounded at the apex, 5 to 6 mm. long, 2 to 2.5 mm. wide; fruit not seen.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, No. 47,165, collected in Cottonwood Canyon, Panamint Mountains, California, May 27, 1891, by Frederick V. Coville and Frederick Funston (Death Valley Expedition No. 962).

This is related to *Amelanchier glabra* and *A. alnifolia*, but the petals are only half as long as in those species. The leaves are usually pointed, rather than broadly rounded or truncate, as in *A. glabra*, thicker and relatively narrower, while the petals are proportionally broader. *Amelanchier alnifolia*, likewise, has much broader, larger, thinner, and brighter green leaves than *A. covillei*.